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Attorney's Docket No.: 07442-009001

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for providing a viewable data object to a viewer receiver, said system comprising:

> a first local server, for storing a first selection of viewable data objects, said first local server being in communication with said viewer receiver;

> a second local server, for storing a second selection of viewable data objects;

> a storage server in communication with said first local server, said storage server configured to store a set of viewable data objects that includes said first selection of viewable data objects;

> a content manager separate from said first and second local servers, said content manager being in communication with said storage server, with said first local server, and with said second local server, said content manager being configured to automatically control access, by a viewer receiver, to a viewable data object from said first selection of viewable data objects.

2. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34, wherein said property associated with said viewable data object is based on a priority assigned to said viewable data object.

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3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said first local server is

adapted to transmit a viewable data objects to a viewer receiver selected from a

group consisting of a television and a personal computer.

4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said first local server is

configured

to detect that a first viewable data object has a lower priority than a

second viewable data object; and

to delete said first viewable data object to free space to store said

second viewable data object.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said content manager is

configured to define a logical grouping of viewable data objects and to manage

said logical grouping as a single unit.

7. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said content manager is

adapted to control work queues for video data objects stored on said first local

server.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1

wherein said first local server is in two-way communication with said

viewer receiver, thereby providing interactive communication between

said viewer receiver and said first local server.

10. (Cancelled)

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11. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said content manager is configured to dynamically update access to said viewable data object in response to an occurrence of an event.

12-21 (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23-26 (Cancelled)

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 70, wherein the act of sending the first data object and the act of sending the second data object are executed in response to requests from the viewer receivers.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 70, wherein the act of selecting a first viewable data object and the act of selecting a second viewable data object are executed, in part, on the basis of operations data received from the local servers.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 70, further comprising:

sending a list of available viewable data objects to the first local server; and

wherein the act of selecting a first viewable data object is executed in response to receiving the list and to priorities for data object content at the first local server.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 70, further comprising:

receiving a request for a viewable data object from the first viewer receiver; and

wherein the act of selecting a first data object is executed in response to receiving the request from the first viewer receiver.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 70, further comprising:

transmitting meta data from a central manager to the local servers; and

receiving a request for a viewable data object from a viewer receiver in response to streaming a portion of the meta data on the viewer receiver.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 70, wherein the act of selecting includes calculating a delay with operations data from the first local server; and
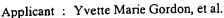
wherein transmitting a first viewable data object is performed after the delay ends; and further comprising:

storing a portion of the first viewable data object in storage space of the first local server freed at the end of the delay.

33. (Previously Presented) A network to provide viewable data objects to television viewers interactively, the network comprising:

a first local server to store viewable data objects, said first local server being configured to transmit particular viewable data objects to a first set of televisions, and to transmit a particular viewable data object to one of the televisions in said first set of televisions in response to receiving a request from the one of the televisions in said first set of televisions;

a second local server to store viewable data objects, said second local server being configured to transmit particular viewable data objects to
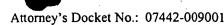
a second set of televisions and to transmit a particular viewable data object to one of the televisions in said second set of televisions in response to receiving a request from the one of the televisions in said second set of televisions;

a storage server coupled to distribute viewable data objects to the first and second local servers, the storage server being responsive to demands of the sets of televisions connected to each different local server; and

a content manager separate from said first and second local servers, the content manager being in communication with the storage server, the first local server, and the second local server, the content manager being configured to automatically control access to viewable data objects by a television.

34. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said content manager is configured to control access to a viewable data object by adaptively controlling distribution of said viewable data objects among said storage server and said first and second local servers on the basis of a property associated with each of said viewable data objects.

35. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34, wherein said content manager is configured to selectively alter said property associated with each of said viewable data objects.

36. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34, wherein said content manager is configured to selectively alter said property associated with each of said viewable data objects on the basis of viewer statistics collected from said local server.

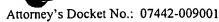37. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34, wherein said content manager is

configured to selectively alter said property associated with each of said viewable

data objects on the basis of viewer statistics collected from all available local

servers and all available storage servers.

38. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34, wherein said content manager is

    configured to selectively alter said property associated with each of said viewable

    data objects on the basis of a state of said viewable data object.

39. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 2 wherein said priority is assigned on

    the basis of properties of a local server designated as a candidate to receive said

    viewable data object.

40. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 2 wherein said priority is assigned on

    the basis of content of said viewable data object.

41. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said property associated with

    said viewable data object comprises revenue associated with viewing of said

    viewable data object.

42. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said property associated with

    said viewable data object comprises a measured popularity of said viewable data

    object.

43. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said property associated with

    said viewable data object comprises an anticipated popularity of said viewable

    data object.

44. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said content manager

    comprises a distributed processing system.

45. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said content manager is

    integrated into said storage server.

46. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a streaming control process in communication with said local server for selectively granting a viewer control over streaming of said viewable data object.

47. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 46, wherein said streaming control process is configured to selectively grant a viewer control over streaming on the basis of meta-data associated with said viewable data object.

48. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 46, wherein said streaming control process is configured to selectively grant a viewer control over streaming in response to instructions from said content manager.

49. (Previously Presented) A method for providing a viewable data object to a viewer receiver, said method comprising:
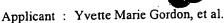
      storing a first selection of viewable data objects on a first local server, said first local server being in communication with said viewer receiver;

      storing a second selection of viewable data objects on a second local server;

      storing a set of viewable data objects on a storage server in communication with said first local server and with said second local server, said set of viewable data objects including said selection of viewable data objects

      providing a content manager separate from said first and second local servers, said content manager being in communication with said first local server, said second local server, and said storage server, for automatically managing each of said first and second local servers to

control access by said viewer receiver to a viewable data object

selected from said first selection of viewable data objects.

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49, wherein automatically controlling

access to a viewable data object by a viewer receiver comprises adaptively

controlling distribution of said viewable data objects among said storage server

and said first and second local servers on the basis of a property associated with

each of said viewable data objects.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, further comprising selectively

altering said property associated with each of said viewable data objects.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, further comprising selectively

altering said property associated with each of said viewable data objects on the

basis of viewer statistics collected from said local server.

53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, further comprising selectively

altering said property associated with each of said viewable data objects on the

basis of viewer statistics collected from all available local servers and all available

storage servers.

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, further comprising selectively

altering said property associated with each of said viewable data objects on the

basis of a state of said viewable data object.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, further comprising basing said

property associated with said viewable data object on a priority assigned to said

viewable data object.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55 further comprising assigning said

priority to said viewable data object on the basis of properties of a first local

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server designated as a candidate to receive said viewable data object.

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55 further comprising assigning priority to said viewable data object on the basis of content of said viewable data object.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 further comprising assigning said property associated with said viewable data object on the basis of revenue associated with viewing of said viewable data object.

59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 further comprising assigning said property associated with said viewable data object on the basis of a measured popularity of said viewable data object.

60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 further comprising assigning said property associated with said viewable data object on the basis of an anticipated popularity of said viewable data object.

61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49, further comprising transmitting a viewable data object to a viewer receiver selected from a group consisting of a television and a personal computer.

62. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49, wherein storing a selection of viewable data objects on a local server comprises:

detecting that a first viewable data object has a lower priority than a second viewable data object; and

deleting said first viewable data object to free space to store said second viewable data object.

63. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49, further comprising defining a logical grouping of viewable data objects and to managing said logical grouping

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as a single unit.

64. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49, further comprising selectively granting control over streaming of said viewable data object.

65. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 64, further comprising selectively granting control over streaming of said viewable data object on the basis of meta-data associated with said viewable data object.

66. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 64, further comprising selectively granting control over streaming in response to instructions from said content manager.

67. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49, further comprising controlling work queues for video data objects stored on said local servers.

68. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49, further comprising providing two-way communication with said viewer receiver, thereby enabling interactive communication with said viewer receiver.

69. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49, wherein automatically controlling access by said viewer receiver to a viewable data object comprises dynamically updating access to said viewable data object in response to an occurrence of an event.

70. (Previously Presented) A method of distributing viewable data objects to viewer receivers, the method comprising:

> selecting a first viewable data object from a pool of viewable data objects in response to a first preselected event;

selecting a second viewable data object from the pool in response to a
second preselected event;

transmitting the first and second viewable data objects to respective
first and second local servers, the first and second objects being
responsive to different priorities of the respective first and second local
servers for viewable data object content;

sending the first viewable data object from the first local server to a
first viewer receiver; and

sending the second viewable data object from the second local server
to a second viewer receiver.

71. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the content manager is in
direct communication with one of said first and second local servers.

72. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the content manager is in
communication with one of said first and second local servers by way of the storage
server.